## IN THE CLAIMS:

Please AMEND claims 6 and 16, as follows:

1. (Original) A charging member for being contactably disposed to an image bearing member and being supplied with a bias voltage, comprising:

a resistance layer having an ionic electrical conductivity,

wherein said resistance layer comprises a foamed elastic member and satisfies the following relationships:

$$B \le (5/3) \times A - 0.3$$
, and

$$B \ge 0.6$$
,

wherein A represents a surface bubble-containing density measured, in a state that air bubbles are attached to the surface of said resistance layer, by immersion method according to JIS Z 8807; and B represents a surface bubble-deaerated density measured, in a state that said air bubbles are removed from the surface of said resistance layer, by immersion method according to JIS Z 8807.

- 2. (Original) A member according to Claim 1, wherein said resistance layer has a volume resistivity of not less than  $1x10^6$  ohm.cm and not more than  $1x10^{10}$  ohm.cm, measured in an environment of a temperature of 23°C and a relative humidity of 50 %.
- 3. (Original) A member according to Claim 1, wherein said resistance layer has a volume resistivity of not less than 1x10<sup>7</sup> ohm.cm and not more than 1x10<sup>9</sup> ohm.cm, measured in an environment of a temperature of 23°C and a relative humidity of 50 %.

4. (Original) A member according to Claim 1, wherein said resistance layer satisfies the following relationship:

$$0.6 \le B \le 0.75$$
.

5. (Original) A member according to Claim 1, wherein said resistance layer satisfies the following relationship:

$$A + 0.02 \le B \le (5/3) \times A - 0.3$$
.

- 6. (Currently Amended) A member according to Claim 1, wherein said charging member abuts against the image bearing member at an abutting pressure of not less than  $2.5 \times 10^3$  Pa and an not more than  $3.0 \times 10^5$  Pa.
- 7. (Original) A member according to Claim 1, wherein said charging member abuts against the image bearing member at an abutting pressure of not less than  $7.5 \times 10^3$  Pa and not more than  $2.0 \times 10^5$  Pa.
- 8. (Original) A member according to Claim 1, wherein said charging member further comprises a core metal on which said resistance layer is disposed, said resistance layer having a thickness of not less than 4.5 mm.

- 9. (Original) A member according to Claim 1, wherein said charging member further comprises a core metal on which said resistance layer is disposed, said resistance layer having a thickness of not less than 6.0 mm.
- 10. (Original) A member according to Claim 1, wherein said resistance layer comprises a foamed elastic member having a closed cell.
- 11. (Original) An image forming apparatus, comprising: image forming means for forming an image on an image bearing member, and a transfer member for being contactably disposed to the image bearing member and transferring the image formed on the image bearing member by applying a bias voltage to said transfer member;

wherein said transfer member comprises a resistance layer having an ionic electrical conductivity, said resistance layer comprising a foamed elastic member and satisfying the following relationships:

$$B \le (5/3) \times A - 0.3$$
, and

$$B \ge 0.6$$
,

wherein A represents a surface bubble-containing density measured, in a state that air bubbles are attached to the surface of said resistance layer, by immersion method according to JIS Z 8807; and B represents a surface bubble-deaerated density measured, in a state that said air bubbles are removed from the surface of said resistance layer, by immersion method according to JIS Z 8807.

- 12. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein said resistance layer has a volume resistivity of not less than  $1 \times 10^6$  ohm.cm and not more than  $1.0 \times 10^{10}$  ohm.cm, measured in an environment of a temperature of 23°C and a relative humidity of 50 %.
- 13. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein said resistance layer has a volume resistivity of not less than  $1x10^7$  ohm.cm and not more than  $1.0x10^9$  ohm.cm, measured in an environment of a temperature of 23°C and a relative humidity of 50 %.
- 14. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein said resistance layer satisfies the following relationship:

$$0.6 \le B \le 0.75$$
.

15. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein said resistance layer satisfies the following relationship:

$$A + 0.02 \le B \le (5/3) \times A - 0.3$$
.

16. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein said transfer member abuts against the image bearing member at an abutting pressure of not less than  $2.5 \times 10^3$  Pa and an not more than  $3.0 \times 10^5$  Pa.

- 17. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein said transfer member abuts against the image bearing member at an abutting pressure of not less than  $7.5 \times 10^3$  Pa and not more than  $2.0 \times 10^5$  Pa.
- 18. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein said transfer member further comprises a core metal on which said resistance layer is disposed, said resistance layer having a thickness of not less than 4.5 mm.
- 19. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein said transfer member further comprises a core metal on which said resistance layer is disposed, said resistance layer having a thickness of not less than 6.0 mm.
- 20. (Original) An apparatus according to Claim 11, wherein said resistance layer comprises a foamed elastic member having a closed cell.